



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

USDA, NASS, Kentucky Field Office
PO Box 1120
Louisville, Kentucky 40201-1120
(502) 582-5293 or 1-800-928-5277

KENTUCKY WEEKLY CROP & WEATHER REPORT



In Cooperation with:
Univ. of Ky - Agr. Weather Center
U.S. Dept. of Commerce - NOAA
Kentucky Department of Agriculture
Cooperative Extension Service

LELAND E. BROWN, Director

Released weekly April - November

Issued 4:00 P.M., May 23, 2011

8-11

AGRICULTURAL NEWS: Below normal temperatures and below normal rainfall prevailed across the Commonwealth this past week. Temperatures averaged 62 degrees, 3 degrees below normal and 6 degrees below last week's average. Overall rainfall for the time period averaged 0.69 inches, 0.44 inches below normal. Regionally, the East had the highest average at 1.22 inch while Western Kentucky had the lowest average at 0.19 inches. **Topsoil moisture** was rated 1 percent short, 48 percent adequate and 51 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 1 percent short, 48 percent adequate, and 51 percent surplus. Days suitable for fieldwork averaged 3.1 out of a possible 7. Farmers were once again contending with the wet conditions. The main farming activities for the week were planting corn and soybeans, setting tobacco, cutting hay and spraying fungicide; however many fields are still saturated.

TOBACCO: As of Sunday May 22, 18 percent of the state's burley had been set, 4 percent below last year, and 11 percent below the five year average. Dark tobacco is 26 percent set, no change from the five year average. Wet fields from continued precipitation hindered setting progress for the week. Some producers are still waiting on the fields to dry out.

ROW CROPS: **Corn** planting made significant progress this week, but some locations were once again inhibited by the wet weather. Reported progress was 62 percent, down 34 percent from last year, and down 25 percent from the five year average. Corn emergence was reported at 38 percent, down 50 percent from last year and down 36 percent for the five year average. The average corn height was 3 inches, with the most advanced height at 7 inches. Emerged corn condition was rated 2 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 37 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 16 percent excellent. In some fields water damage will force replanting or possible switch from corn to soybeans. **Soybean** planting progress was reported at 10 percent, 33 percent below last year, and 19 percent below the five year average. Soybeans emerged was reported

at 2 percent, behind last year's 21 percent and the five year average of 13 percent.

SMALL GRAINS: The condition of winter **wheat** was reported as 2 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 18 percent excellent. Some farmers report that the wet weather has increased the disease level in the winter wheat crop. The winter wheat harvest is expected to begin around June 12.

OTHER CROPS AND PASTURE: The **hay** crop condition has been reported as 2 percent very poor, 7 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. **Pasture** condition was 1 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 16 percent excellent. Some farmers were busy cutting and baling hay this past week.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 05/22/11

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Percent				
Corn Planted	62	45	96	87
Corn Emerged	38	19	88	74
Soybeans Planted	10	3	43	29
Soybeans Emerged	2	NA	21	13
Burley Tobacco Set	18	9	22	29
Dark Tobacco Set	26	10	33	26

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 05/22/11

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent				
Topsoil	0	1	48	51
Subsoil	0	1	48	51

CROP CONDITIONS for week ending 05/22/11

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Ex
Percent					
Corn Emerged	2	5	37	40	16
Wheat	2	3	24	53	18
Pasture	1	6	27	50	16
Hay Crops	2	7	32	47	12
Tobacco Set	2	3	34	54	7

Below Normal Temperature and Below Normal Rainfall:

Temperatures for the period averaged 62 degrees across the state which was 3 degrees cooler than normal and 6 degrees cooler than the previous period. High temperatures averaged from 73 in the West to 66 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 6 degrees cooler than normal in the West to 11 degrees cooler than normal in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 55 degrees in the West to 52 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 1 degree cooler than normal in the West to 1 degree warmer than normal in the East. The extreme high temperature for the period was 88 degrees at Bowling Green and the extreme low was 37 degrees at Black Mountain.

Rainfall for the period totaled 0.69 inches statewide which was 0.44 inches below normal and 61% of normal. Rainfall totals by climate division, West 0.19 inches, Central 0.74 inches, Bluegrass 0.61 inches and East 1.22 inches, which was -0.94, -0.45, -0.47 and 0.09 inches respectively from normal. By station, rainfall totals ranged from a low of 0.02 inches at Cadiz to a high of 1.70 inches at Jackson.

KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL

FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 22, 7:00 P.M.

The above information is provided by Tom Priddy, Kentucky Extension Agricultural Meteorologist, University of Kentucky Agr. Weather Center (859)257-3000 ext 245. E-mail: priddy@uky.edu Additional Ky weather data available on Internet at: <http://www.waqwx.ca.uky.edu/>